

1949 Round 1 Saturday 9th April Parramatta Oval

Parramatta 12 def. Western Suburbs 8

Colin SCHOMBERG **Fullback Eric BENNETT** Col HUDSON Mitchell WALLACE Wing Ian JOHNSTON Jack WOODS Centre Centre Johnny SMITH Colin MAXWELL (c) **Ted EVANS** Wing Jack LACKEY **Rolf TRUDGETT** Five-eighth Frank STANMORE Jack HAYWARD Half Keith HOLMAN Arthur SLATTERY Lock Peter McLEAN Bob HOBBS (c) Second Row Don MILTON **Bruce MANN** Second Row **Kevin HANSEN** George ROBERTSON Front Row **BILL HORDER Neville SPENCE** Hooker William BROWN Max WILSON Jim SEERY Front Row

Tries Ted EVANS (2) Kevin HANSEN
Jim SEERY

Goals Colin SCHOMBERG (3) Keith HOLMAN (1)

Match Description

Parramatta: Full-back: C Schomberg; three-quarters; M Wallace, I Johnston, J Smith, E Evans; five-eighth: R Trudgett; half: J Hayward; forwards: A Slattery, R Hobbs (capt), B Mann, G Robertson, N Spence, M Wilson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: E Bennett; three-quarters: C Hudson, J Woods, C Maxwell (capt), J Lackey; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: K Holman; forwards; P McLean, D Milton, K Hansen, J Seery, W Brown, W Horder Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News April 16-18th 1949)

Beaten by Easts in a trial game, Wests reckoned the defeat wouldn't happen again. It did! Parramatta dittoed the deed at Cumberland Oval yesterday and won 12-8 before 6230 who paid £504 to see the rout. Led by Hayward and Johnston, the Parramatta back line outgeneralled and outplayed the Western rear-guard. International Maxwell and five-eighth Stanmore gave the locals no more trouble than a couple of schoolboys. Scoring two perfect tries, Ted Evans showed he is a winger of definite promise. Wests were good while they had a monopoly of the ball, but showed they lacked defence when they lost possession. Nev. Spence played a grand game for the locals and gave them an equal share of the ball. Bob Hobbs, Parramatta's new skipper, played an inspired game for a forward and he showed unusual dash. Parramatta's pack carried a few passengers. Slattery and Robinson could lose some condition. Col. Schomberg commenced the season with a brace of goals from four attempts. Wests lost 12 certain points because they lacked a goal-kicker. Hobbs proved he was not one by losing six easy points before he tried Schomberg. Hansen and Seery were the pick of the Western pack. (Truth 10th April 1949)

Parramatta Rugby League players' better condition enabled them to beat last year's premiers, Western Suburbs, 12-8, yesterday, at Parramatta Oval. Parramatta led 5-3 at half-time. West players' condition gave out when the pressure was onto the last stage of play. West had plenty of chances to win, but these were lost through dropped passes or knock-ons because of tiredness. Parramatta hooker Spence won 21 scrums, Brown (Western Suburbs) 23. Winger Ted Evans scored Parramatta's two tries. Parramatta full-back, Colin Schomberg, played a sound game, and kicked three goals after his captain, R. Hobbs, had failed in three earlier attempts. Wests, which scored first, led by one-point margins on two other occasions. West led 6-5 early in the second-half, when Jim Seery scored a try, and later 9-8, when half-back Keith Holman kicked Wests' only goal. (The Daily Telegraph 10th April 1949)

..... Parramatta never seemed in danger of defeat. With the scores at 6-5 in West's favour just after the interval, it seemed as if the premiers would try to play intelligent football, but Parramatta soon regained the lead to win handsomely. Evans, who scored two grand tries, was in brilliant form, whilst J. Smith and Johnston figured in many bright movements. Wests' dazzling second row forward Kevin Hansen was the best forward on the ground. He gave the crowd plenty of thrills each time he had the ball, but often lacked support. (The Sun 10th April 1949)

Bill Keato's boot was sadly missed on Saturday. We had 11 attempts at goal and only one raised the flags......D Worne lived up to the promise he showed in the trials and with more experience this youngster will develop into a top-line player. (Rugby League News 16-18th April 1949)

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Notes: Bill Keato was injured in the trials and so Eric Bennett was tried at full-back. Thankfully, it was only for one game! Neville Hogan had left the club and Keith Holman came into his natural half position while Jack Woods made his debut at centre. In a very fast-paced game, Kevin Hansen was the best player on the field and his already huge reputation was growing by the day. The team seemed to lack condition and maybe new Captain/Coach Colin Maxwell hadn't been working them hard enough. Bill Keato's absence was felt badly as there was only one goal kicked from eleven attempts. Don Warne had played well enough in Reserves to warrant selection the following week in Keato's continued absence.

